Business Matters

Volume 1, Issue 3 October 2005

Big Idea for a new Small Business?



Entrepreneurs and new business "wanna-be" owners often come up with a big idea, a fresh concept that fills a customer need. Nobody else out there does that, they think. What a great way to meet a well-defined gap for customers and make money at the same time, they say! But, how do you take that big idea and turn it into a successful small business, they ask?

Information gathered early in the process of building a business may forestall poor decision-making and costly future changes.

Starting and managing a small business involves research and planning. Information gathered

Big Idea continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **1** Big Idea for a New Small Business?
- 1 Newbie Technology Businesses Incubate
- 2 Practice Makes Perfect with Learning Express
- 3 Calendar of Events

Newbie Technology Businesses Incubate

to in·cu·bate (¹n'ky∍-bat', ¹ng'-)

to maintain at optimal environmental conditions for growth and development.

Growing a new technology company? The Seminole Technology Business Incubation Center (STBIC) provides a nurturing environment for technology based companies in the early stages of development.



STBIC boardroom for use by incubating businesses.

A joint venture of Seminole County, Seminole County Port Authority and Seminole Community College, the STBIC houses new businesses at the Port Authority in Sanford, Florida, near I-4.

What are some of the benefits in bringing a fledgling technology business into the STBIC?

- State of the art office space
- Internet access
- On site management
- Bookkeeping support

Business Incubation continued on page 3

Big Idea continued from page 1

early in the process of building a business may forestall poor decision-making and costly future changes.

The Library offers an online business web presence to assist the prospective business owner in the search for answers to start-up questions. Organized step-by-step, the topics in the *Small Business Start-up* section of our *Business Matters* website provide links to helpful electronic and print materials and websites.

Developed for those starting a business in Seminole County, Florida, *Business Matters* delivers library business information via the web. Find local data and information under these topics:

- Analyzing the Market
- Business Planning
- Choosing & Registering Corporate Structure
- Evaluating the Competition
- Financing the Business
- Licensing & Regulation
- Naming the Business
- Operating & Growing the Business

Many of the local details and facts that entrepreneurs need can be found by clicking on *Small Business Start-up* in the *Business Matters* website. Check it out by clicking on the link below.

www.seminolecountyfl.gov/library/business

Click on Small Business Start-up.

Business Matters

... local details and facts that entrepreneurs need ...

Practice Makes Perfect with



Learning Express

Sample Tests for Licensing and Admissions

Learning Express offers interactive online tutorials and practice exams in over twenty-five categories. Designed to help you succeed, the database gives immediate feedback with test scoring and answer explanations, and individualized analysis of results.

Here are some practice exams found in Learning Express:

ASVAB Practice Tests for Military

Civil Service Practice Exams

Cosmetology License Practice Exam

GMAT Practice Test for MBA admissions

Real Estate Broker Practice Exams

Real Estate Salesperson Practice Exams

www.seminolecountyfl.gov/library/business
Click on Business Databases.

Small Business Seminars Return!

Check out the very popular and free Small Business Seminars,
Now offered for Fall:

BUSINESS STARTUP BASICS

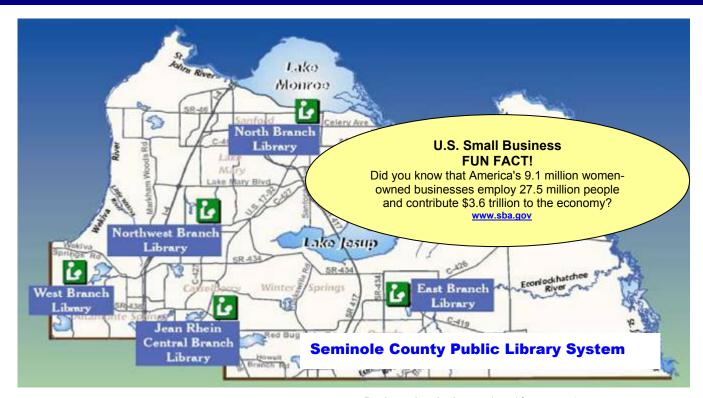
Learn how to start your own business in Seminole County

UNDERSTANDING & WRITING YOUR BUSINESS PLAN

Discover the importance of creating a blueprint for your business success.

Register online

See Calendar of Events on next page.



Calendar of Events

Register online

September 15, 2005 Thursday, 6:30-8:30 pm

Business Start-up Basics North Branch- Sanford

September 22, 2005 Thursday, 6:30-8:30 pm

Understanding & Writing Your Business Plan North Branch- Sanford

October 11, 2005 Tuesday, 6:30-8:30 pm

Business Start-up Basics West Branch – Longwood

October 27, 2005 Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm

Understanding & Writing Your Business Plan West Branch- Longwood

For more information, contact: Ginny Howerton, Business Services Program Manager.

Phone: 407-665-1503

Or email, vhowerton@seminolecountyfl.gov.

Business Incubation continued from page 1

- Secretarial support
- Small Business Development Center Management consultants
- Low fees

For more information about the STBIC, call

407-321-3495.**a**



Seminole County Public Library System

Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Friday – Saturday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Sunday, 1:00 - 5:00 pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ginny Howerton Business Services Program Manager

Library Services Phone: (407) 665-1503 email

Jane Peterson

Library Services Manager

Library Services
Phone: (407) 665-1505
Fax: (407) 665-1510
email

Library and Leisure Services

Suzy Goldman

Director

Phone: (407) 665-7490

emai